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CONTINUOUS EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF
ARTISTS OF CHICAGO.

A project which has been occasionally discussed in the art museums of different cities, is undertaken for the first time by the Art Institute. This is the appropriation of a gallery to the continuous exhibition of works of resident artists. One of the fine new galleries, Room 48, has been devoted to this purpose, and is now filled, and creditably filled, by the works of sixty-one artists of Chicago and vicinity, each artist represented by only one work. It is recognized that the visitor of a public museum may reasonably expect to find in it an adequate representation of the art of the city or locality in which it is situated. The regulations of this exhibition are somewhat experimental, but are as follows :

The jury elected by the artists for the Annual Exhibition of Artists of Chicago and and Vicinity, is continued for the year. Works for the continuous exhibition are selected from this exhibition and from the studios, and with the consent of the artists these works are placed on exhibition for six months or a year.

Not more than two works by any one artist are exhibited at the same time, nor more than four during the year. If works from the annual exhibition are not available artists are invited to offer other works, subject to the approval of the Art Institute and the jury. In case of the sale or withdrawal of works from the collection, other works of the artist may be substituted, with the approval of the jury, up to the number of four during the year. The Art Committee of the Art Institute retains ultimate control of all exhibitions in its galleries.

Attention is called to the invitation to artists who do not happen to be represented in the annual exhibition, to submit works for this gallery. It is intended as a general representation of the best current art of Chicago.

THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN THE
ART INSTITUTE.

The Art Institute externally does not give the impression of a very large building. This is due partly to the enormous buildings near it, and partly to the proportions of the building itself. The breadth of the entrance stairway, the large scale of the bronze lions, and the great size of the windows of the main floor, all tend to diminish a building which is in fact 320 feet long and 170 feet deep, besides the range of school studios in the rear, which extend over a length of 678 feet and a breadth of from 32 to 38 feet.

Visitors who are conducted through the galleries and school rooms often express their surprise at the amount of space. Probably few of the members, or even the trustees and officers, are prepared for the statement that we have in use 145 separate rooms, of which 50 are public exhibition galleries (including 7 school rooms just approaching completion), 54 devoted to school uses, 9 connected with the library, 2 lecture rooms, 30 offices, work rooms, store rooms, etc. Many of the exhibition rooms are of great size, the largest 208 x 58 ft., one 90 x 33, eleven 50 x 40, etc. Twenty-seven of these are top-lighted, and they are all fine, modern exhibition galleries. The area of the exhibition rooms, including library and lecture room, is about 75,000 square feet, or about an acre and three quarters. The school rooms though so numerous occupy much less space.

The school has 28 top-lighted studios, most of them in the rear of the museum building, opening upon a straight hallway of the extraordinary length of 625 feet. Some are in the top of the building.

The students make free use of the collections, and this close relation of school and museum is regarded as one of the most excellent features of the Institute.